

IN THE  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

FILED

DEC 26 2007 aet

FLORA KARALL #K00093 )

MICHAEL W. DOBBINS  
CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT

Plaintiff, )

v. )

MARY SIGLER, Warden )

Defendant. )

) CRIM. NO. 07 C 6125

MOTION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPEALABILITY

COMES NOW Flora Karall, pro se do hereby move this Honorable Court for a certificate of Appealability so as to appeal the denial of her Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus.

Flora Karall was convicted of Solicitation of Murder For Hire on October 20, 1995 and sentenced to 32 years imprisonment by Judge Henry R. Simmons, Jr.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST ISSUE

The court record reflects the following; Flora Karall was arrested on November 5, 1992 based solely on the Probable cause of alleged written statements made as Ms. Karall was not in the

commission of any crime at the time of her arrest by the Chicago Police Department. At Ms. Karall's trial, Public Defender Ms. Banks states on transcript that "This whole case is based upon mere statements. There is no actual physical evidence." (see Appendix) upon Ms. Karall's request for these alleged written statements as to challenge probable cause, Assistant Public Defender Ms. Berman stated "The problem with this request is that the items that Karall requests are not in the clerk's office court file"... and... "if they exist..." (see Appendix).

Therefore, raising serious questions as to whether the Chicago Police Department had probable cause to arrest Ms. Karall, and conduct an illegal trial.

### ARGUMENT

Ms. Karall was denied her constitutional right to obtain copies of the alleged written statement that allegedly gave the Chicago Police Department probable cause to arrest Ms. Karall. The Freedom of Information Act clearly states "Pursuant to the fundamental philosophy of the

american constitutional form of government, it is declared to be the public policy of the state of Illinois that all persons are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the officials and public employees consistent with the terms of this act." 5 ICS 140/1g1

Moreover, the Freedom of Information Act was enacted to provide all persons access to information regarding affairs of government and should be construed toward the end. Schessler v. Department of conservation, 194 Ill. Dec. 608, 256 Ill. App. 3d 198, 627 N.E.2d 1250.

Furthermore, the Federal Court's have the jurisdiction to intervene in legal matters such as this. It clearly states in 28 U.S.C.S § 2254(f) "If the applicant challenges the sufficiency of the evidence adduced in such state court proceeding to support the state court's determination of a factual issue made therein, the applicant, if able, shall produce that part of the record pertinent to a determination of the sufficiency of the evidence to support such determination.

If the applicant, because of indigency or other reason is unable to produce such part of the record, then the state shall produce such part of the record and the Federal Court shall direct the state to do so by order directed to an appropriate state official. If the state cannot provide such pertinent part of the record, then the court shall determine under the existing facts and circumstances what weight shall be given to the state court's factual determination."

Though this part of the state record seems minute, it was as Public Defender Ms. Banks stated "This whole case is based upon mere statements. There is no actual physical evidence." Therefore, seriously challenging the weight given as to the state court's factual determination.

Moreover, as mentioned in In re D.C., 144 Ill.2d at 410, 163 Ill. Dec. 494, 581 N.E.2d 648 "where there is uncertainty as to whether a crime has been committed, the privacy rights of the individual may be given more consideration. Therefore,

where the question is (1) whether a crime has been committed, and (2) whether a particular individual committed a known crime, as in this case, more evidence will be required to satisfy the probable cause requirement." see also People v. Lee, 293 Ill. Dec. 267, 828 N.E.2d 237 (2005).

As further mentioned in Terry v. U.S., 392 U.S. at 20, 88 S.Ct. at 1879 "The reasonableness of a Terry stop is dependent upon whether the officer's action was: (1) justified at its inception; and (2) reasonably related in scope to the circumstances which justified the interference in the first place." see also People v. Gonzalez, 204 Ill.2d 220, 228-29, 273 Ill. Dec. 360, 789 N.E.2d 260 (2003); People v. Hopkins, 363 Ill. App.3d 971, 981, 300 Ill. Dec. 772, 845 N.E.2d 661 (2005).

Furthermore, the fact of these alleged written statements never existing had been fraudulently concealed until Ms. Kerall's request on September 22, 2004 (12) years after Ms. Kerall's arrest, trial, and conviction. As defined

in Black's Law Dictionary, Fraudulent concealment is "The hiding or suppression of a material fact or circumstance which the party is legally or morally bound to disclose. The employment of artifice planned to prevent inquiry or escape investigation and to mislead or hinder the acquisition of information disclosing a right of action; acts relied on must be of an affirmative character and fraudulent." See People v. B.R. Mackay & Sons, Inc., 157 Ill.2d 508, 642 N.E.2d 1288 (Ill. 1994); Waters v. Reingold, 215 Ill. Dec. 376, 668 N.E.2d 126 (Ill. App.1 Dist. 1996); Jackson Jordan, Inc. v. Leydig, Voit & Mayer, 198 Ill. Dec. 786, 633 N.E.2d 627 (Ill. 1994); Hermitage Corp. v. Contractors Adjustment Co., 209 Ill. Dec. 684, 651 N.E.2d 1132 (Ill. 1995); Schmitz v. Hoffman, 18 Ill. Dec. 569, 61 Ill. App.3d 130, 377 N.E.2d 1205; Nogle v. Nogle, 53 Ill. App.2d 457, 202 N.E.2d 683 (Ill. App. 1964).

In light of these facts presented, this is a clear obstruction of justice as to have conducted an illegal arrest, illegal indictment, and

illegal trial on Ms. Karall when taking into consideration the only alleged factual evidence of alleged written statements does not exist today.

As mentioned in U.S. v. Perstein, 126 F.2d 789 (C.A. 3 1942) "The substantive offense punished by federal statute regarding the obstruction of due administration of justice is the obstruction of justice or the endeavor to obstruct it before a United States Commissioner or in a court of the United States." See also 18 U.S.C.A. § 1503; U.S. v. Bolden, 277 F. Supp.2d 999, 1011 (E.D. Ark. 2003); U.S. v. Messerlian, 832 F.2d 778, 792 (3rd Cir. (N.J.) 1987); U.S. v. Smith, 729 F. Supp. 1380, 1384 (D.D.C. 1990); U.S. v. Kanchanatuk, 37 F. Supp. 2d 1, 5 (D.D.C. 1999).

Furthermore, it mentions in U.S. v. Natale, 526 F.2d 1160 (C.A.N.Y. 1975) "... (+) the requirement of authentication or identification as a condition precedent to admissibility is satisfied by evidence sufficient to support a finding that the matter in question is what its proponent

claims." See also U.S. v. Lombardozzi, 491 F.3d 61, 68 (2nd Cir. (N.Y.) 2007); U.S. v. Chen, 378 F.3d 151, 160 (2nd Cir. (Conn.) 2004); Chemical Bank v. Pana, 4 Fed. Appx. 1, 7 (2nd Cir. (Conn.) 2001); U.S. v. Chen, 283 F. Supp.2d 664, 671 (A. Conn. 2003); U.S. v. Kramer, 499 F. Supp.2d 300, 303 (E.D. N.Y. 2007).

Finally, in briefly referring to the case of People v. Blaylock, 269 Ill. Dec. 490, 781 N.E.2d 287 (Ill. 2002), the defendant appealed to the Illinois Supreme Court claiming his due process rights of the Fourteenth Constitutional Amendment had been violated because his file at the Vermillion County Clerk's office could not be found. The Supreme Court of Illinois agreed his due process rights had been violated.

Thus, in relying on People v. Blaylock, 269 Ill. Dec. 490, 781 N.E.2d 287 (Ill. 2002) Ms. Keraitis due process rights are being violated and warrant serious examination by this Honorable Court. See also People v. Shum, 278 Ill. Dec. 14, 17, 797 N.E.2d 609 (Ill. 2003); People v. Moore, 278 Ill. Dec. 36, 38, 797 N.E.2d 631 (Ill. 2003);

People v. Mata, 289 Ill. Dec. 461, 463, 819 N.E.2d 1261 (Ill. App. 2. Dist. 2004); People ex rel. yohle v. Hubble, 378 Ill. 377, 38 N.E.2d 38 (Ill. 1941); Palmer v. Liquor Control Commission, 33 Ill. Dec. 100, 105, 396 N.E.2d 325 (Ill. App. 4 Dist. 1979); Will County v. Woodhill Enterprises, Inc., 274 N.E.2d 476, 481, 4 Ill. App. 3d 68, 74 (Ill. App. 3 Dist. 1971) Hendle v. Stevens, 145 Ill. 2d 639, 596 N.E.2d 628 (Ill. 1992); Michael v. First Chicago Corp., 93 Ill. Dec. 736, 487 N.E.2d 403.  
WHEREFORE, Appellant prays that this Motion for Certificate of Appealability is granted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Flora Karall  
FLORA KARALL #K00093  
Dwight Correctional Center  
23813 E. 3200 North Rd.  
Dwight, IL 60420-8144

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Flora Karall, the undersigned, do hereby certify that I caused to be mailed by placement in the Institutional Mail Box, first class postage prepaid, a true copy of the following Motion For A Certificate of Appealability to the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 219 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60604 and the Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan, 100 W. Randolph St., 12th Floor, Chicago, IL 60601.

151 Flora Karall

FLORA KARALL #K00093  
Dwight Correctional Center  
23813 E. 3200 North Rd.  
Dwight, IL 60420-8144

Subscribed And Sworn To  
Before Me this 20 day of  
December, 2007.



Beatrice E. Stanley  
NOTARY PUBLIC

APPENDIX

1           Flora was going through a divorce. Also at \_\_\_\_\_  
2 some point in time Leo Karall decided he's tired of the  
3 Burton Family and files a lawsuit against Rose Burton,  
4 Ralph Burton and Flora. Rose Burton, the mother, the  
5 mother of John Burton, the mother of Ignacio Burton,  
6 the mother of Ralph Burton, all people who testified on  
7 previous days in court. The State wants to attempt to  
8 lend credibility to Ignacio Burton, the career  
9 criminal, the man who basically hasn't been out of the  
10 penitentiary for years, the man who doesn't consider  
11 himself dangerous, though he commits crimes with guns  
12 and knives, and they expect you to believe that simply  
13 because Ignacio Burton says, "I had a conversation with  
14 Flora, it's true."

15           This whole case is based upon mere  
16 statements. There is no actual physical evidence.

17           Ignacio Burton says the conversation  
18 conveniently occurred outside the presence of his  
19 mother. Though she was at the penitentiary with Flora.  
20 Ignacio Burton says he knows about the lawsuit and  
21 ironically enough, Ralph Burton, who's here in the  
22 city, doesn't know he's the subject of a lawsuit.

23           I submit to you he's doing that to shield  
24 himself from any kind of credibility issue.

**ARGUMENT**

**THE TRIAL COURT DID NOT ERR IN DENYING FLORA KARALL'S REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS OF WITNESSES WHEN SHE ALREADY HAD AN APPEAL (96-0676) AND SHE HAD APPELLATE COUNSEL FOR IT.**

Under Supreme Court Rule 415 (c) "Any materials furnished to an attorney pursuant to these rules shall remain in his exclusive custody and be used only for the purposes of conducting his side of the case, and shall be subject to such other terms and conditions as the court may provide." Here, Flora Karall had an appeal and appellate counsel on appeal. The remedy is for Karall to get a copy, if they exist, from her trial counsel or appellate counsel.

Further, Flora Karall requests that the Clerk's Office provide her with several statements of witnesses who testified at trial named Pasquale Cordoza, Carl Gerger, Mark Fairchild as well as any other written statements in her case file. She requests these materials as a Public Record under the Freedom of Information Act. 705 ILCS 5/140. The problem with this request is that the items that Karall requests are not in the Clerk's Office court file. Therefore, she is not entitled to reports that are not part of the case file. See People v. Salgado, 353 Ill.App.3d 101, 817 N.E.2d 1079 (2004).

Based on the above, the trial court did not error when he denied Flora Karall's request for statements of witnesses.

Order Form (01/2005)

## United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Name of Assigned Judge or Magistrate Judge	Rebecca R. Pallmeyer	Sitting Judge if Other than Assigned Judge	
CASE NUMBER	07 C 6125	DATE	12/5/2007
CASE TITLE	Flora Karall vs. Mary Sigler, et al		

## DOCKET ENTRY TEXT

Pursuant to Minute Order of 11/2/2007, the above cause is dismissed. This order is final and appealable.

Docketing to mail notices.

Courtroom Deputy  
Initials:

ETV